

Cheap Auto Rental llc
384 So Colony Rd.
Wallingford, CT 06492
203-269-1106

re; HB5290

To whom it may concern;

My name is Lewis Schatten and I own Cheap Auto Rental, a small independant car rental company serving Connecticut from six locations with fifteen employees.

I support HB5290; existing legislation calls for sending a certified letter to me after 48 hours of when one of my rental vehicles or a vehicle which I am a lienholder on is towed. Unfortunately, some of my customers do not see fit to notify me when there is an accident or other event with a vehicle; they may be hospitalized, incarcerated, assume that the police or tow garage will notify me, or they may just not care.

Even more unfortunately, some towers see the "after 48 hours" requirement to mean sometime after 48 hours; a week, a month, sometimes never. In the mean time, the vehicle is in paid storage to their benefit and my injury to the tune of as much as \$27/day outside or even more if they are claiming to store it inside. Revising the language to require "immediate" notification after 48 hours will be fair and in the spirit of what was originally intended when this legislation was written. The failure to notify my company in a timely fashion costs my company thousands of dollars in unnecessary storage charges every year and denies me the use of my vehicles for their intended purpose costing me thousands more. Private individuals whose vehicles are stolen are similarly subjected to unnecessary and unfair expense. Frequently the first notice I have of where my vehicle has gone is when I receive notice that they towing facility is filing an artificers lien to sell the vehicle after a month or more of storage.

Please call me with any questions.